

Alberta

Canada

CA2 ALA
1927A41
c.1

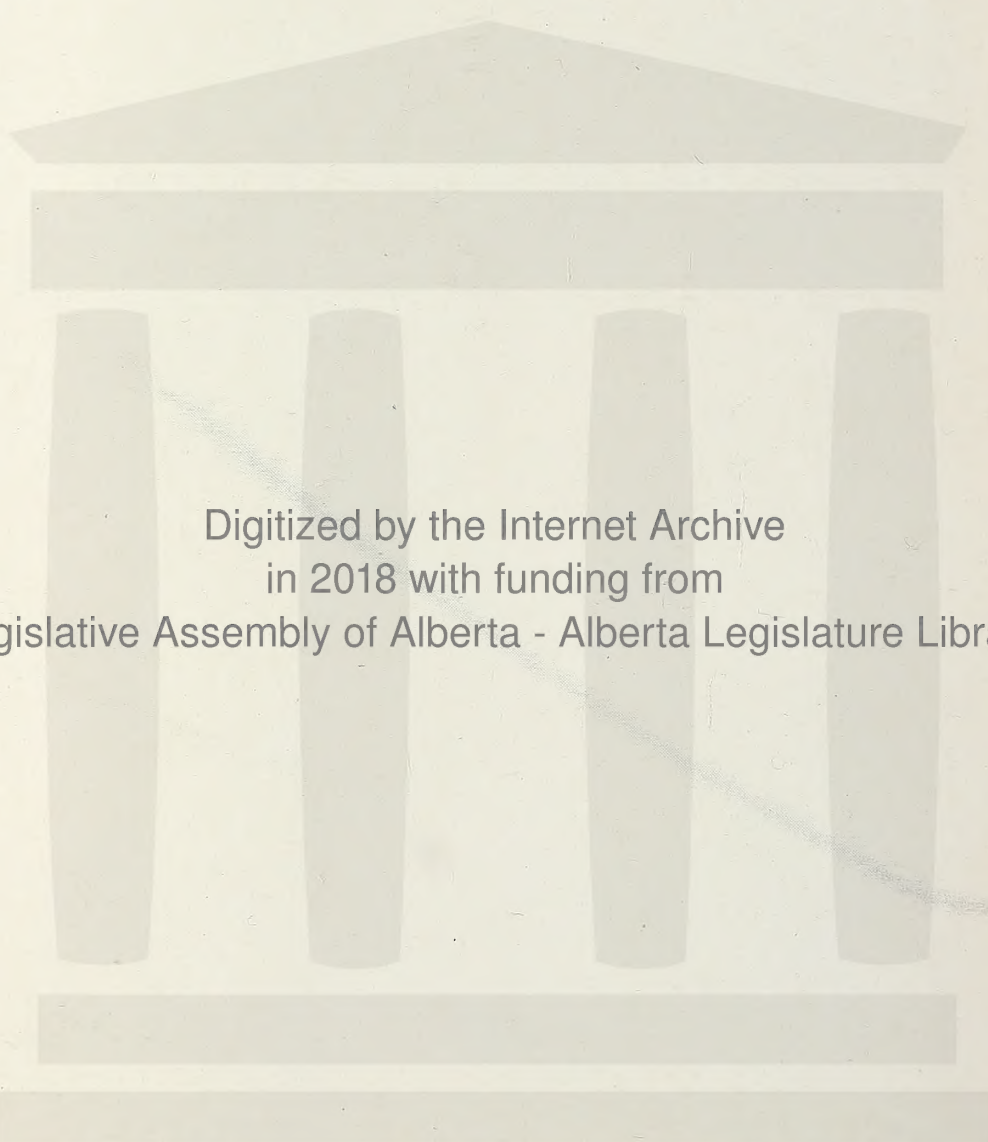
ALBERTA LEGISLATURE LIBRARY



3 3398 00411 1737

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

A Booklet of Information on
the Progress, the Resources
and the Opportunities of the
Province of Alberta, Canada.
1927 Edition



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Legislative Assembly of Alberta - Alberta Legislature Library

Alberta

A booklet of
information in
brief form on
the progress
and development
of the Province
of Alberta
Canada

Issued by Direction of
HON. GEORGE HOADLEY
Minister of Agriculture

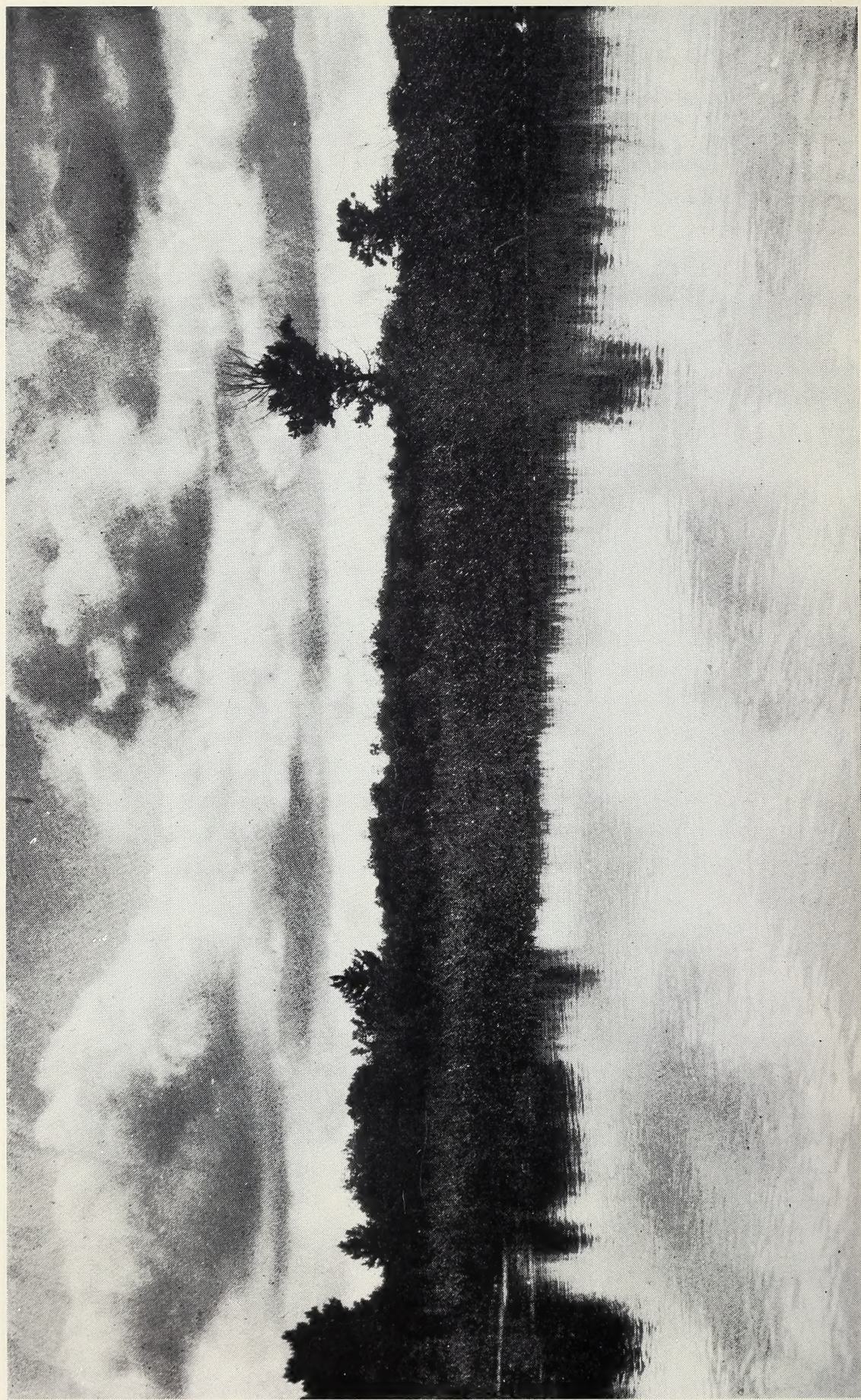
CANADIAN OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS
COLLECTION

DE PUBLICATIONS OFFICIELLES
CANADIENNES

NATIONAL LIBRARY / BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE
CANADA




RANCH OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES IN ALBERTA



SUMMER IN ALBERTA

Alberta



A Land of Opportunity
A History of Achievement

THOUGH we find that the history of that portion of Western Canada now comprising the Province of Alberta, dates back more than 200 years, it is only in very recent years that the name "Alberta" has borne any significance to those who read of the progress and development of the Dominion of Canada and its provinces, but today "Alberta" is known abroad as the name of a land rich in resources and great in potentialities, wonderfully attractive as to climate and physical characteristics, and rapidly forging ahead in agricultural and industrial development.

The history of Alberta partakes of all the romance with which time has richly endowed the early days of the Hudson's Bay Company and kindred bands of old-world adventurers who found the allure of the new western world irresistible. For long years the only form of law and order in the far west was the authority exercised by the officials of the Hudson's Bay Company. It was not until 1867 that the first steps towards making "Rupert's Land" a part of the Dominion of Canada were taken, and it was not until 1870 that the territory was finally handed over by the old fur-trading company. From that date until 1905 the territory now included in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan and outlying lands was designated as the Northwest Territories. In the year 1905 the Province of Alberta was formed, and came into the federation of provinces.

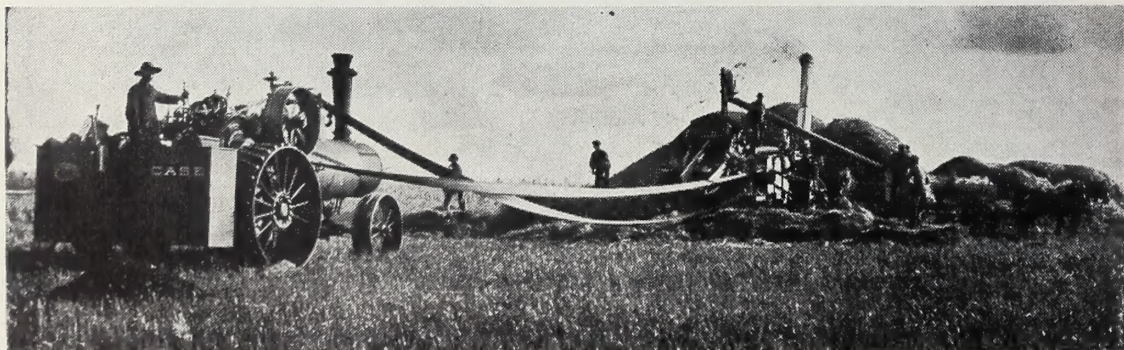
The new province gave promise of becoming one of the brightest jewels in the crown of empire. Richly endowed by nature with broad and fertile agricultural lands, a wealth of mineral resources, and surpassing beauty of mountain scenery, it seemed at the time that perhaps nowhere in all the Dominion was there such opportunity for development, nor so brilliant a prospect of future greatness.

To a great extent, Alberta has fulfilled these early promises. In its short life as a province, Alberta has become known to the world as one of the richest of agricultural countries, producing a high quality of grains and other products of the farm. Its rapid strides forward in agricultural

production and the revelation of its possibilities along these lines has furnished one of the most absorbing chapters in the history of modern Canadian development. The extent and value of its mineral resources have come to be known to the world of science and finance, and today are demanding the close attention of those who control the flow of capital in the industrial world.

But the fringe has scarcely been touched. The area of Alberta is 255,000 square miles, but the population is as yet little more than 600,000, or less than three persons to the square mile. A comparison of its area with that of some of the great nations of the world reveals some rather startling facts. Within the boundaries of Alberta the whole of the British Isles could be absorbed twice over, but the population of the province is less than one-tenth of that of the City of London. We could put away quite comfortably in Alberta the whole of France, and still have a large area of land left over. The area of the province is sufficiently large to absorb the whole of the New England and mid-Atlantic states.

Within the province there are more than 60,000,000 acres, which may be classed as lands capable of agricultural development. Up to the present, however, little more than one-fifth of this area has been brought under cultivation. There are still more than 15,000,000 acres remaining for disposition within the surveyed area, chiefly available for homestead entry or lease. It must be understood, however, that the land still available for free entry under the homestead regulations, lies in the outlying districts of the province, and those who desire to undertake farming on homestead land must be prepared to do so under pioneer conditions, in which life will necessarily be somewhat rough for the first few years.



THRESHING GRAIN IN ALBERTA

The Climate

THE climate of Alberta is one of its chief attractions. Clear, bracing atmosphere, with a great deal of sunshine, both in winter and summer, has given rise to the popular expression "Sunny Alberta." The summers are very warm, with the nights cool and refreshing. The rainfall is not heavy, and is concentrated in the period from May to August, which is the growing season. The autumn is often described as Alberta's most delightful season, with the air comfortably clear and crisp. The winters are rendered more mild than some of the other provinces of Canada, by the effect of the beneficent Chinook winds, warm breezes wafted across the Rocky Mountains from the Pacific, which bring a period of spring-like weather into the depth of winter, so that the periods of severe cold are not prolonged. There is no dampness in the air during the cold spells and the atmosphere produces a feeling of vigor. The snowfall is generally light, and traffic is on wheels throughout many of the winters, particularly in the southern part of the province, where the effects of the Chinook are felt to a greater extent than in the more central and northern parts.

In the summer the twilight is long, lasting until after ten o'clock, with the dawn breaking about three in the morning.

Usually the season's work begins in April and seeding of the crop is commenced in May. Harvesting commences the latter part of August and all operations are carried on in the open throughout the autumn and early winter.

PRECIPITATION RECORDS

Points	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	15 yr. Avge.
Lethbridge . . .	12.13	13.22	16.40	16.00	18.83	15.62
Medicine Hat . .	13.83	11.34	13.64	9.86	14.61	12.65
Calgary	13.50	10.63	23.88	24.49	18.06	16.34
Edmonton . . .	15.22	13.73	16.91	18.76	17.41	18.33
Peace River . . .	17.31	6.05	7.48	4.71	9.76	11.46
Ft. Vermilion .	13.43	14.84	11.38	8.95	12.40	11.50

FROST FREE PERIOD—Average 11 years, 1915-1925: Medicine Hat, 126 days; Calgary, 95 days; Lethbridge, 115 days; Edmonton, 89 days; Peace River, 86 days.

SUNSHINE RECORDS—Figures for hours of sunshine during 1925 for various stations are as follows: Lethbridge, 2,216 hours; Medicine Hat, 2,270 hours; Calgary, 2,195 hours; Olds, 2,103 hours; Lacombe, 2,162 hours; Edmonton, 2,145 hours; Grande Prairie, 2,185 hours; Fort Vermilion, 2,060 hours.

Agricultural Development

THE early years of Alberta saw the passing of the purely pastoral stage of agriculture which was in existence before the province came into being. In the '70's and '80's, cattlemen of the continent were attracted to this part of the west by the nutritive grasses of the foothills and the great, wide prairies of the southern part of the province, and the country quickly became famous for its ranches and its beef cattle. Many of these ranches have been absorbed by the grain farms of latter days, but there still remains a great area given over to ranching and the production of a high quality of livestock that has brought Alberta into prominence the world over.

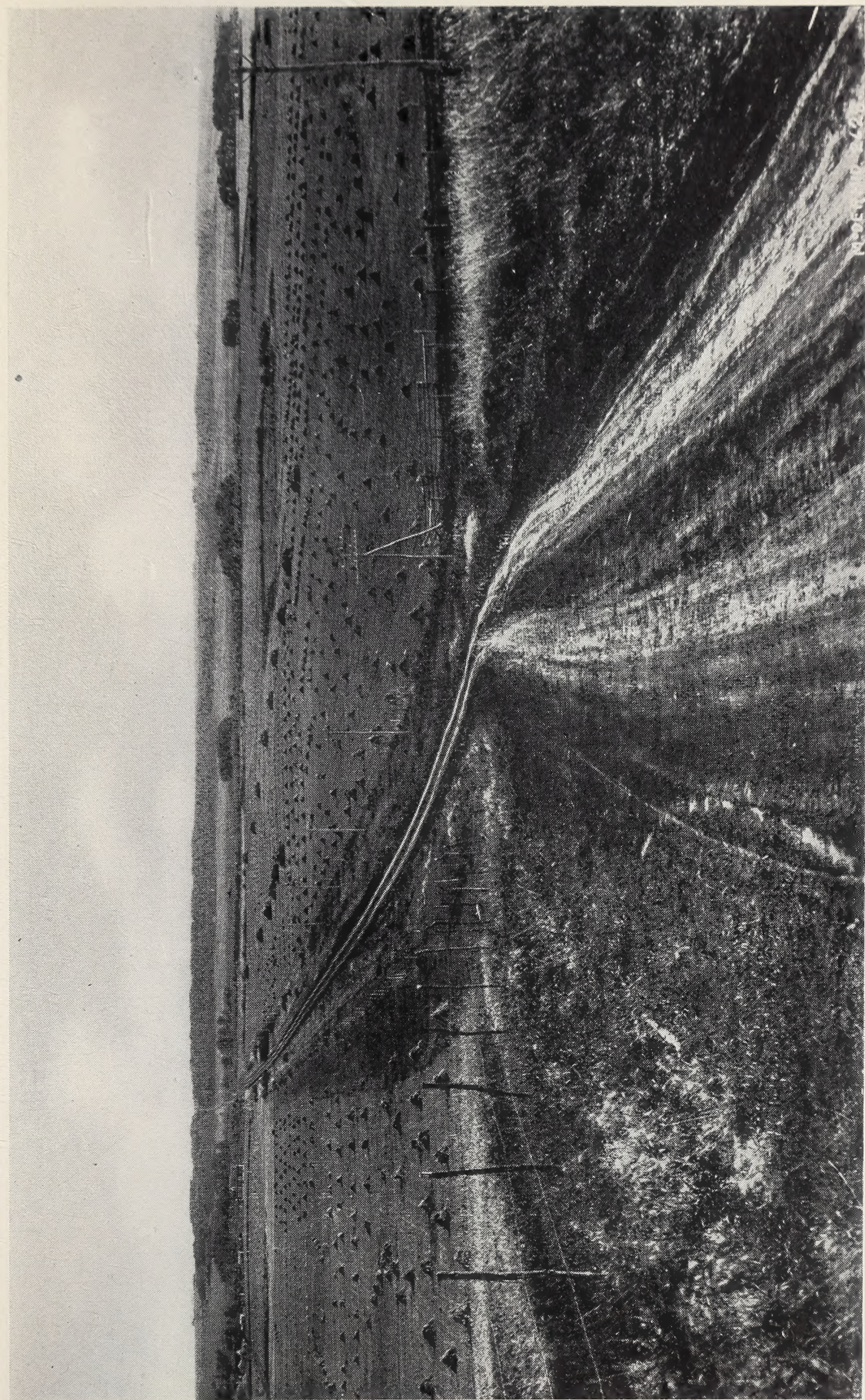
The attractiveness of ranch life in Alberta led His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to purchase one of the old-time ranches in the foothills, and on this ranch is now being raised some of the pure-bred stock in which the Royal Family has always taken such a keen interest.

The eighteen years that have elapsed since the formation of the province have seen the development of agriculture along two distinct lines; first, the purely grain farming, and second, the more diversified class of farming that has brought into prominence the wonderful possibilities of Alberta as a dairy and mixed farming country.

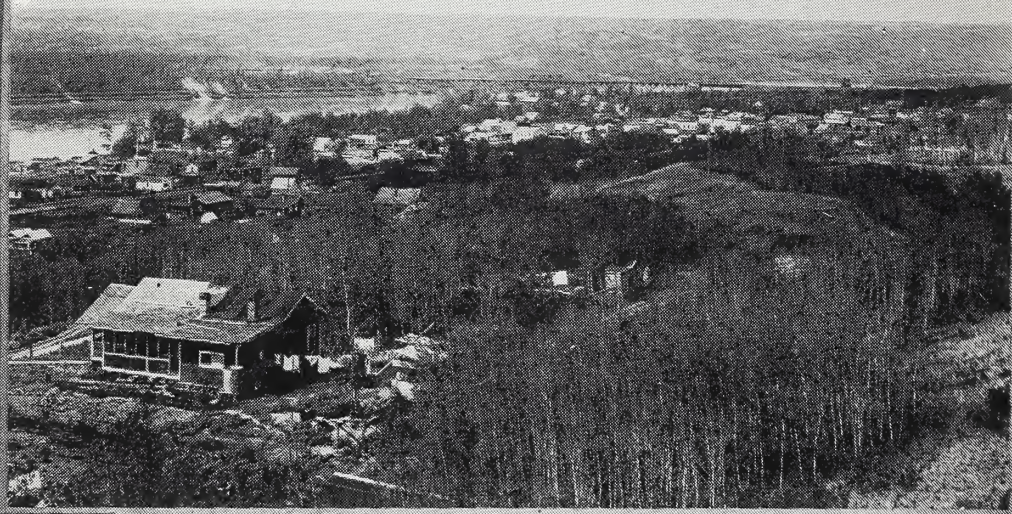
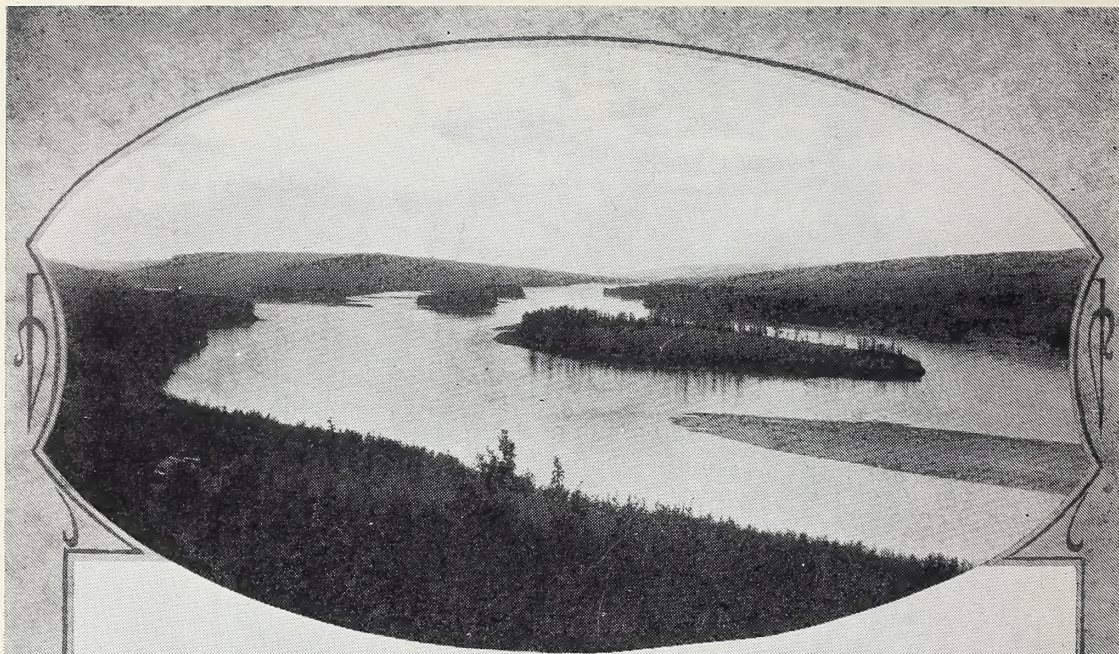
The land resources are a revelation to the newcomer, especially in relation to the great number of different kinds of work that may be undertaken throughout the whole scale



AN ALBERTA HOMESTEAD



RURAL ALBERTA IN THE HARVEST SEASON



Top, Peace River Valley. Centre, Town of Peace River. Bottom, Home of World's Champion Wheat and Oats Grower, near Grande Prairie, in the Peace River Country

of farm land enterprises, such as open pastoral work, small proprietary ranching, broad grain farming, mixed farming, special dairy farming, special pure-bred stock-raising and irrigation farming.

In the development of grain production, Alberta has come to the front very rapidly, not only in the matter of the extremely heavy yields obtained but also for the high quality of grain produced.

To appreciate the strides that Alberta has made in the development of grain production, it is necessary to quote some comparative figures. The following figures are taken from official government records:

PRODUCTION OF WHEAT

Year	Acreage	Yield
1906.....	223,930 acres	5.932,269 bushels
1926.....	6,115,000 "	113,000,000 "

PRODUCTION OF OATS

1906.....	476,511 acres	24,027,071 bushels
1926.....	1,907,000 "	57,210,000 "

PRODUCTION OF ALL FIELD CROPS

1906.....	34,091,429 bushels
1926.....	193,127,000 "

TOTAL ACREAGE UNDER CULTIVATION

1905.....	616,821 acres
1926.....	12,000,000 "

ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE OF ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

1905.....	\$ 20,000,000
1926.....	264,000,000

In spite of the ups and downs attending the development of agriculture in a new country, Alberta has been able to preserve a truly remarkable record in the average yield of grain over a period of years.

A Splendid Average

Over more than one-half of the province, yields of spring wheat varying from 15 to 25 bushels have been maintained over a period of thirteen years. The following table of figures shows the average yields of grain maintained over various periods:

	Five Years 1922 to 1926 incl.	21 Years 1906 to 1926 Incl.
Wheat	17½ bushels	17½ bushels
Oats	31½ "	34 "
Barley	25 "	25 "
Rye	13 "	14½ "
Flax	6½ "	7½ "

Average yields of grain in some of the outstanding years in the history of the province are recorded as follows, in bushels per acre:

	1906	1911	1915	1916	1923	1926
Wheat	23	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	31	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	28	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	39	41	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	43 $\frac{3}{4}$	50	30
Barley	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	34	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	22

The Dairy Industry

During the past fifteen years, particularly during the past decade, the dairy industry of Alberta has kept pace in growth with the grain production. The dairy industry has been fostered since the province was formed, by an aggressive and efficient dairy branch of the Department of Agriculture, which now conducts not only a co-operative marketing service, but also official grading systems for both cream and butter, that have resulted in the production of a quality of creamery butter high enough to find a place on the world's markets. Alberta butter is now exported to Great Britain, United States and the Orient.

The following is the record of progress in the dairy industry:

CREAMERY BUTTER

Year	Creameries	Production
1905.....	13	813,430 lbs.
1926.....	99	20,750,000 "

FACTORY CHEESE

Year	Factories	Production
1911.....	8	100,000 lbs.
1926.....	15	1,350,000 "

VALUE OF ALL DAIRY PRODUCTS

1900.....	\$ 564,476
1910.....	7,855,751
1926.....	21,000,000



DAIRY HERD ON ALBERTA GOVERNMENT FARM

The Poultry Industry

It is only within the past few years that the poultry industry has come to the front to any great extent in Alberta, but within the past four years so great have been the strides made that the province has turned from an importing to an exporting province with respect to eggs and other products. Many thousands of cases of eggs are exported annually from the province to the British and other markets. Alberta stands second among the provinces of Canada in the number of poultry on farms. The value of poultry products has risen from \$2,000,000 in 1912 to \$8,500,000 in 1926. A co-operative poultry pool is now in operation in the province.

Sugar Beets

On the irrigated lands of Southern Alberta large acreages are now being planted in sugar beets. A million dollar beet sugar factory is established at Raymond, near Lethbridge. The yields obtained range from 6 to 15 tons per acre.

Fodder Crops

In the development of mixed farming the production of fodder crops has become an important factor. The value of fodder crops now forms more than 20 per cent of the total value of all agricultural products. The crops grown for feed are generally green oats, known as green-feed, mixed grains, clovers, alfalfa, grasses, timothy hay, and fodder corn or maize. The latter has had a great development within the past few years.

Agricultural Products

The following is a table of agricultural products in Alberta, and their yield and market value in the year 1926. The total value of all agricultural products of the province in that year was placed approximately at \$264,000,000 compared with a production of but \$20,000,000 in 1905.

PRODUCTION IN 1926

Grain Crops	\$145,613,370.00
Root Crops	6,136,990.50
Fodder Crops	55,075,350.00
Dairy Products	21,820,000.00
Poultry Products	8,500,000.00
Livestock Marketed	24,000,000.00
Wool	456,000.00
Game and Furs.....	2,100,000.00
Miscellaneous	211,550.00
	<u>\$263,913,260.50</u>

The Livestock Industry

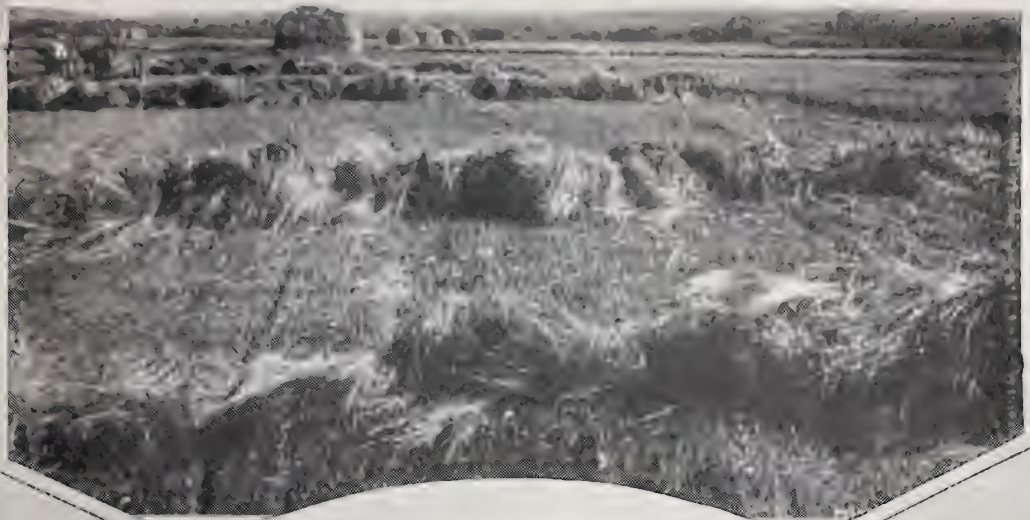
CATTLE—The raising of beef cattle has always been important in Alberta. It is to be expected that specialization in the cow industry will take place in every country with the general progress of the country, and this has been the case in Alberta. As late as 1900 the whole of Southern Alberta was given over to pastoral work with cattle, horses and sheep, but chiefly cattle. A good deal of the cattle business of Central and Northern Alberta was also of simple range type. With the progress of settlement, dairying has come into importance on account of the need of securing a steady kind of income and higher revenue from increasingly valuable lands.

The superiority of Alberta range beef is accounted for by the superiority of the range grasses, the climate and the using of good beef bulls. The grasses of the Alberta range cure on the stalk and the finishing season of the summer and fall is favorable to stock. There is no scalding from the sun, no sultry nights and no cold and wet combined. The range cattle-men have always bought the best bulls obtainable of the Shorthorn, Hereford, and Aberdeen-Angus breeds. The excellence of these cattle is shown in the frequency with which they have topped the Chicago market for grass cattle. Besides the beef raised on the foothill ranges there is some raised on proprietary ranches of the prairie country, on leased lands in the eastern and central part and also on the edges of the settled parts of the Peace River country.

On account of the demand for all classes of meat supplies during recent years meat production of all kinds has been stimulated. On many of the farms as well as on the ranches, good outputs of beef cattle have been made. Under



BABY BEEF CLASS AT AN ALBERTA EXHIBITION



HAYING TIME



DAIRY SCENES IN ALBERTA

the encouragement of the exhibition associations and school fairs, likewise, baby beef production has been greatly stimulated and excellent fat calves are coming forward at the fairs. This kind of meat stock is becoming important in a commercial way.

The demand for pure-bred stock is very active and the establishment of pure-bred beef herds has been going on steadily. The feeds available are of the best possible kind for producing high-class breeding stock. The mixed grasses give fine combined development of bone and right flesh covering, the supply of feed grain, such as oats and barley, is large and the cost of production low. Roots and winter forage, such as green feed, tame and natural hay, are equally plentiful. The cost of shelter is not high, as expensive barns are not considered necessary except for dairy stock. Winter feed should be provided for all classes of stock in Central and Northern Alberta. In limited cases in Southern Alberta young stock may find a living outside. The capitalization in land is moderate. Good herds are already well established and the demand for pure-bred stock is steady and active. Selling services are well established through exhibitions, breeders' associations, bull sales and congress sales by groups of breeders. Five-thousand-dollar youngsters in both males and females have been bought and sold by Alberta breeders. Young Alberta Shorthorns have taken high places at the International in the recent exhibitions. Shorthorns are most common in Alberta, but Herefords are popular, especially in Southern Alberta, and good herds of Aberdeen-Angus are widely distributed in the province.

HORSES—The raising of horses has always been of importance in the province. The horse constituted the working equipment of early cattle-land. He is a necessity for the cowman, and on account of this very obvious necessity and



the feature of education and steady use and companionship the cowman became skilled and wise in the horse business and always took an interest and pride in a good animal.

MUTTON AND WOOL—The Province of Alberta is eminently suited for the production of mutton and wool. The country is slightly rolling and the climate is highly favorable for sheep-keeping. Foot troubles and epidemic skin troubles are practically unknown. The grasses are of the kinds relished by sheep and the cultivated crops required for winter feeding, such as hay, green-feed, the feed grains and roots, are easily and cheaply grown.

The changes in the values of farm products recently have been favorable to the increased keeping of sheep. Prices have been so high for feed grains that such stock as required concentrated rations for finishing has not been found to be as profitable as meat stock that can be produced and matured on grass and milk alone within a summer season and that can be carried over winter on low grade feeds. Sheep likewise are helping to keep the grain farms and summer-fallows clean. Double returns, and quick returns, and cheaply secured returns are having a good effect on the status of sheep husbandry.

Practically all the sheep of the province were formerly run on the prairie of Southern Alberta and nearly two-thirds of the total are still in Southern Alberta, where they run in large bands in the open areas between the enclosed lands. Sheep have proved highly profitable to sweep off the native grasses. With the contraction of the range country by settlement there has been a gradual transference of the business of sheep-keeping to the farms of Central Alberta and farm flocks are increasing rapidly. The sheep of the range were chiefly Merino from Montana, but English breeds of mutton rams are used to give greater size to the lambs raised on the range. Long-wooled rams are rather popular. The sheep of the mixed farming districts are chiefly the medium-



AN ALBERTA FARM

wooled breeds of English sheep, such as Shropshire, Oxford, Hampshire, Suffolk, Southdown and Dorset. There is one flock of Karakul sheep in the province, and distinct success has attended the breeding of this hardy variety.

The market for wool and mutton and for pure-bred stock is good. About ninety per cent of the wool clipped is sold directly in primal markets through the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers' Association, Limited. The collecting of this wool is done by half a dozen local wool growers' associations in the province. Lamb and fed wether have sold above the best beef during the past few years. Ram sales are conducted each year at a number of points and the demand is steady at good prices. Alberta supports more sheep than the other three western provinces together.

SWINE HUSBANDRY—All of the conditions for successful swine husbandry are present throughout Central and Northern Alberta and in the irrigated districts of the south. Dwarf Essex rape, winter rye, white clover, Kentucky blue grass and alfalfa in places produce succulent pasturage from early spring until the late autumn in quantities surpassed by few districts in North America. The grains necessary to growing and fattening hogs, such as oats, barley and rye, yield well. The demand will absorb many times the quantity now being produced.

At Edmonton there are three packing plants, the Swift Canadian Company, P. Burns & Company, and Gainers, Limited, with a capacity ranging from one hundred to fifteen hundred hogs per day. In addition to the buying capacity



PRIZE ALBERTA BEEF ANIMAL

represented in these firms there is at Edmonton open competitive marketing provided by the Edmonton Stock Yards Company. This open market was established in 1916 and has made phenomenal progress in the scope of its operations. In addition to local demand, buyers attend this market from all the large packing centres in the Dominion of Canada and likewise from the northern centres of the United States.

There are two abattoirs at Calgary, P. Burns & Company and the Western Packing Company. There is likewise at Calgary an open stock yard in which buyers from Toronto, Winnipeg, Moose Jaw and Vancouver operate, as well as dealers from Spokane, Seattle and St. Paul who buy periodically.

To the man who understands the nature of swine and brings his methods into harmony with local conditions, Alberta offers excellent opportunities for acquiring wealth in the swine-growing business.

GROWTH OF LIVESTOCK IN FIGURES

	1906	1926
Horses	226,534	835,000
Milch Cows	101,245	436,500
Other Cattle	449,387	1,000,000
Sheep	154,266	411,400
Swine	114,623	780,000

Irrigation Farming

Irrigation enterprises in the dry land areas of southern Alberta began first in 1902 when the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company secured its charter and brought irrigation water to farming districts in the vicinity of Lethbridge, Coaldale, Magrath and Raymond.

The area of land now owned by the irrigation companies of Southern Alberta makes up a total of over three million acres, of which one-third is actually irrigable land. There



SHEEP ON IRRIGATION FARM IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA

are four main tracts or sections included in the large enterprises. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company's western section lies east of Calgary and north of the Bow River. It is about forty miles from north to south and runs sixty-five miles east. In this area water is applied to 678,000 acres, of which there are actually irrigable 223,000 acres. Lying south-east and adjoining this is the eastern section of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's irrigation block. There are about 1,245,000 acres in this tract of which 400,000 acres are actually irrigable. In addition to this the Canadian Pacific Railway Company acquired in the year 1908 the interests of the Alberta Land & Irrigation Company, originally known as the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company, at Lethbridge. This tract included 499,000 acres, of which about 120,000 acres are irrigable.

The Bow River irrigation project, which comprises 530,000 acres of land lying on both sides of the Suffield-Blackie branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, is owned by the Canada Land & Irrigation Company, an English concern having headquarters in Medicine Hat. Two hundred thousand acres of this area will eventually come under irrigation.

During 1920 and 1921 there was renewed development in irrigation services in Southern Alberta. Several new projects were started and others are under way. In 1920 a tract of 27,500 acres near Taber (of which 17,000 acres are irrigable) was brought under irrigation by the Canadian Pacific Railway. In 1926 most of this was farmed and produced excellent crops.

The Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District of 220,000 acres (105,000 acres irrigable) started work in 1921. The Government of Alberta guaranteed the bonds of this district for \$5,400,000. This project has now been in operation for three years, and new settlers are being placed annually on the lands under the project. Special terms are given settlers by the Government. Those desiring information should communicate with Jas. Pike, Colonization Manager, Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District, Lethbridge, Alberta.

The benefits of irrigation have been well demonstrated in Southern Alberta. Besides making it possible to grow heavier and better crops than are grown on unirrigated land the supply of moisture makes it possible to grow a greater variety of crops. On dry land grain is the characteristic crop. Under irrigation heavy crops of forage, especially alfalfa, and roots are grown which make profitable stock-raising and stock-feeding possible. The water insures

heavy crops of all kinds and the feeding of live stock insures large returns per acre from land, conserves fertility and makes home-building permanent.

Horticulture

Alberta is eminently suited for minute culture and is a province of gardens. The soil in all parts is well fined and mixed and being new soil it responds very generously to good cultivation. The people of the towns and cities show keen appreciation of the value of the variety and quantity of fresh wholesome food which may be secured with slight labor from small plots of virgin soil.

Fruit-growing has not reached large proportions in the province. Experiments with apples of the hardy Russian sort have resulted in the production of good apples, but not yet in commercial quantities. Crab-apples are successful through Southern and Central Alberta. In Central and Northern Alberta there are a great many varieties of small tree fruits such as wild cherries, saskatoons and high-bush cranberries, and there are great supplies of bush fruits such as raspberries, gooseberries, currants and blueberries. Strawberries are plentiful. Where these wild fruits are found the tame fruits of similar nature are successfully grown and are an important food resource on account of the scarcity of the larger fruits. On the irrigated lands of Southern Alberta heavy crops of currants, raspberries, strawberries, and gooseberries are grown and are highly profitable commercially.

The most successful and characteristic garden crop of Alberta is the vegetable crop. Excellent potatoes are grown from the most southern point in the province to the Peace River. They grow rapidly and are of fine quality. During the past few years the growing of potatoes for export has engaged the attention of many farmers in Central Alberta, and has resulted very successfully. Beets, carrots, cabbage, parsnips, celery, turnips, chard, onions, lettuce, radish, peas, beans, squash, pumpkins, asparagus and rhubarb do well in every part of the province. Cucumbers and tomatoes are successfully grown in all parts of the province, but in the north they require suitable position with reflected heat and southern exposure to give the best results. Sweet corn is grown to some extent over the whole of the province but does better in the southern part than in the centre and north. Squaw corn succeeds very well in every part of the province and is an important addition to good living.

Some Comparisons

IT is by comparison with other provinces and countries that Alberta's possibilities, chiefly in agriculture, are realized. Over a period of twenty years, Alberta has been able to keep in the front rank with respect to high average yields of grain. In that period Alberta's average yield of spring wheat, compared with other provinces and some states of the Union, has been as follows:

Alberta	17.5	bushels	per	acre
Saskatchewan	16.9	"	"	"
Manitoba	16.7	"	"	"
Kansas	13.5	"	"	"
Minnesota	13.4	"	"	"
South Dakota	11.4	"	"	"
North Dakota	10.9	"	"	"

Alberta also compares favorably with the states of the Union in the matter of average value of occupied farm lands, having one of the lowest averages on the continent. A recent valuation is as follows:

Alberta	\$ 26.00	per	acre
Montana	22.15	"	"
Nevada	28.11	"	"
Colorado	35.40	"	"
Utah	48.26	"	"
North Dakota	41.10	"	"
Kansas	62.30	"	"
Idaho	69.43	"	"
South Dakota	71.40	"	"
Nebraska	87.91	"	"
Missouri	88.00	"	"
Minnesota	109.23	"	"
Iowa	227.09	"	"
Indiana	125.98	"	"

Land Taxes

In the matter of taxes on farm lands, Alberta is in a particularly favorable position in comparison with other places. In Alberta the average tax on farm lands for municipal, school and state purposes is between 20 and 30 cents an acre, and in many cases is lower. This compares with an average tax on farm lands of \$1.78 per \$100 of valuation in California, or from 50 cents to \$2 an acre on lands in Colorado, of over 60 cents an acre in Nebraska, of over 83 cents in Minnesota—none of these figures including tax on live-stock and improvements, which are taxed in many states, but are not taxed in Alberta.

In Competition with the World

ALBERTA'S agricultural products have come to take first rank in competition with the world, in various international shows which have been held from time to time. Even before Alberta became a province, in 1893, a sample of wheat from the far-famed Peace River country took the world's prize at the Chicago fair. In 1911 Alberta grain producers won eighteen prizes at the international dry farming congress in Colorado Springs, U.S.A., and in the following year, at the same congress, held then in Alberta, an Alberta farmer took the championship for wheat.

In 1923 at the international hay and grain show held in Chicago, Alberta took the championship in wheat and also in oats, and took altogether forty-four prizes and two championships in that year at Chicago. In 1926, Alberta again won the world's championship at the same show, for both wheat and oats, both these championships going to Mr. Herman Trelle, in the Grande Prairie district, of the Peace River country, 500 miles north of the international boundary. Thus Alberta has won the world's championship in wheat three times since it became a province, and five times in oats.

SUMMARY OF WINNINGS AT CHICAGO

1920—19 prizes, 2 championships	1924—43 prizes, 2 firsts.
1921—32 prizes, 4 championships	1925—17 prizes, 1 championship
1922—36 prizes, 3 championships	1926—16 prizes, 3 championships
1923—44 prizes, 2 championships	and 2 firsts.

Alberta creamery butter has won heavily in prizes at international shows, its latest outstanding achievement being the award of the gold medal in 1925 at the Dairy Show in London, England, in the Dominions competition.

In livestock, Alberta has always been a heavy winner, its prize animals being the admiration of many an exhibition. As many as seventy-five prizes were taken in one year by Alberta livestock at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada, and as many as twenty-three prizes, including three championships, at the World's Fair in Chicago.



A LARGE FARM IN ALBERTA



RANCHING SCENES IN ALBERTA



Top, Sheep on Feed Lot. Centre, Hogs in Pasture. Bottom, Boys and Girls' Calf Club

Opportunities for Settlement

IT will be readily realized from the brief history of what has been accomplished already in agriculture in Alberta, that great possibilities exist for further settlement. Large areas of excellent agricultural land still remain undeveloped. These lands are capable of successful utilization for the entire scale of farm enterprises, particularly for the practice of mixed farming. Alberta offers almost unequalled opportunities for the settler, for the man who is determined to succeed, is willing to work, and has a desire for farm life.

There is no royal road to wealth. Alberta is the land of promise only for the settler who at the commencement is willing to live frugally and carefully for a few years until his start is made, and who is adaptable to the ways and methods of farming which must be practised in a new country. For such a type of settler there is opportunity.

Land available for settlement divides itself roughly into three divisions, namely: Free homestead lands, improved and unimproved farm lands for purchase, and irrigated lands in Southern Alberta.

FARM LANDS—Improved and unimproved farm lands in the more settled districts of the province are available at reasonable prices. Much of this land is held by city owners, railway and other corporations, and large areas of such lands are still vacant, and the terms are reasonable. Raw land can be bought at from \$10 an acre up, and improved farm lands for from \$20 an acre up, according to location and improvements. It is possible also to rent land at reasonable terms.

HOMESTEAD LANDS—Good homestead land is still available for settlement, but is chiefly in outlying districts. For those willing to face pioneer conditions, the homestead still offers opportunity. Some very fine farming land is still open for entry as homesteads.



HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS—Prospective settlers from other countries desiring to take up homesteads should apply to their nearest Canadian Government agent for full particulars. Briefly, every person who is sole head of a family, and every male 18 years of age and over, is entitled, on payment of a fee of \$10, to enter upon a homestead of one-quarter section of 160 acres. A widow having minor children to support may also secure a homestead.

A homesteader is required to perform certain duties in order to entitle him to finally receive his patent on land. He is required to live six months in each year on his land in a habitable house for three years. Residence duties cannot be performed by proxy. Homestead duties must be completed within three years from the date of entry. A homesteader may perform his duties if he lives not more than nine miles away on a farm of not less than eighty acres, owned solely by him, without being obliged to live on the homestead, or he may perform his homestead duties while living with relatives on owned land of not less than eighty acres in the vicinity of the homestead. A homesteader is required to bring under cultivation in the first three years not less than thirty acres of land, twenty of which must be cropped. When not residing on the land fifty acres must be broken, thirty of which must be cropped.

LEASES—Grazing leases on vacant Dominion lands unfit for agricultural purposes in Alberta may be secured by British subjects and running for a period of ten years. Tenure shall be free from interruption during the period of the lease. Grazing leases may be granted on vacant lands, irrespective of the quality of the soil, located over forty miles from the railway, but subject to withdrawal on a year's notice. The size of a lease is limited to 12,000 acres. Rent is four cents per acre payable half-yearly in advance. Grazing leases may be secured on school lands also in Alberta at four cents per acre. In all leases the lessee is obliged to make statutory declaration of owning the amount of stock required by the regulations. Leases on school lands run only for one year.

FARM LABOR—Ordinary farm labor during the winter months in Alberta is paid from \$10 to \$20 a month and board. In the spring season farm labor receives as high as \$40 and \$50 a month. In the harvest season harvesters receive from \$3 to \$4 a day.

Those coming to Alberta as farm laborers are advised to secure all possible information as to openings from the various agencies or from the provincial labor bureau at Edmonton, Alberta.

Information for Intending Settlers

FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND EUROPE—Settlers coming to Alberta from Great Britain or Europe may secure what information they desire regarding conditions of settlement, details of the trip, cost, etc., from the Alberta Government Office, H. Greenfield, c-o Hudson's Bay Co., Trafalgar Building, corner Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C. 2, England. This office is maintained in London by the Alberta Government for the purpose of being of service to intending settlers and advising them as to the best course to pursue. This office should be freely consulted before arrangements for the trip are made. The office is in charge of Hon. Herbert Greenfield, himself a pioneer settler of Alberta, who can give first hand information regarding this country.

The Canadian government also maintains offices at Canada House, London, England, and at Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Liverpool, York in England, and Belfast and Dublin in Ireland, Aberdeen, Glasgow and Inverness in Scotland, and Bangor in Wales. From any of these offices full information regarding settlement in Canada can be secured.

FROM THE UNITED STATES—Settlers from the United States should apply to their nearest Canadian government agent regarding Alberta, or write direct to the Department of Agriculture at Edmonton, Alberta.

CAPITAL REQUIRED—There is no fixed amount that can be stated as essential in all cases. Some men have a genius for getting along on small capital, but it may be stated that the larger the better. A good start can generally be made on from \$2,000 to \$3,000, which would provide for a payment down on land, for freight, small house, barn, implements and livestock necessary.

CITIZENSHIP—It is not necessary to become a full-fledged citizen of Alberta to own land or to farm it. Those who take up homesteads, or free grants of land, secure title to same only when citizenship papers have been applied for, but these are not completed until five years' residence in the country has been established.

TIME OF YEAR TO ARRIVE—Settlers are able to locate land in Alberta at any time from March until November. It is generally advisable that the new settler become located sufficiently early in the year to get in his crop for the first season. Work on the land generally commences about April 15.

Successful Farmers in Alberta

NOTHING is more encouraging to those contemplating farm life in a new country than to read of what others have accomplished before them. Herewith are brief notes on what some of Alberta's best known and most successful farmers have done. Most of them had very humble beginnings, and some of them real struggles, but Alberta has been in very truth a land of opportunity for them.

MAJOR H. G. L. STRANGE, FENN, ALBERTA—World's champion wheat grower, 1923. Before the war was a civil engineer and had been active in many parts of the world. During the war won distinction in the engineering corps of the British army. Following the war, he selected Fenn, Alberta, as the location for the farm on which he planned the venture of attempting the production of the best seed wheat on the continent. His exhibit won the world's prize at the Chicago International in December, 1923. Major Strange has also had outstanding success in the breeding of poultry of high egg-laying strains.

J. W. BIGLANDS, LACOMBE—Twice world's champion in seed oats, native of England, homesteaded in Alberta in 1903, starting with 160 acres. His farm, four miles west of Lacombe, is now composed of 1,000 acres. He took up the



FARM SCENE IN ALBERTA



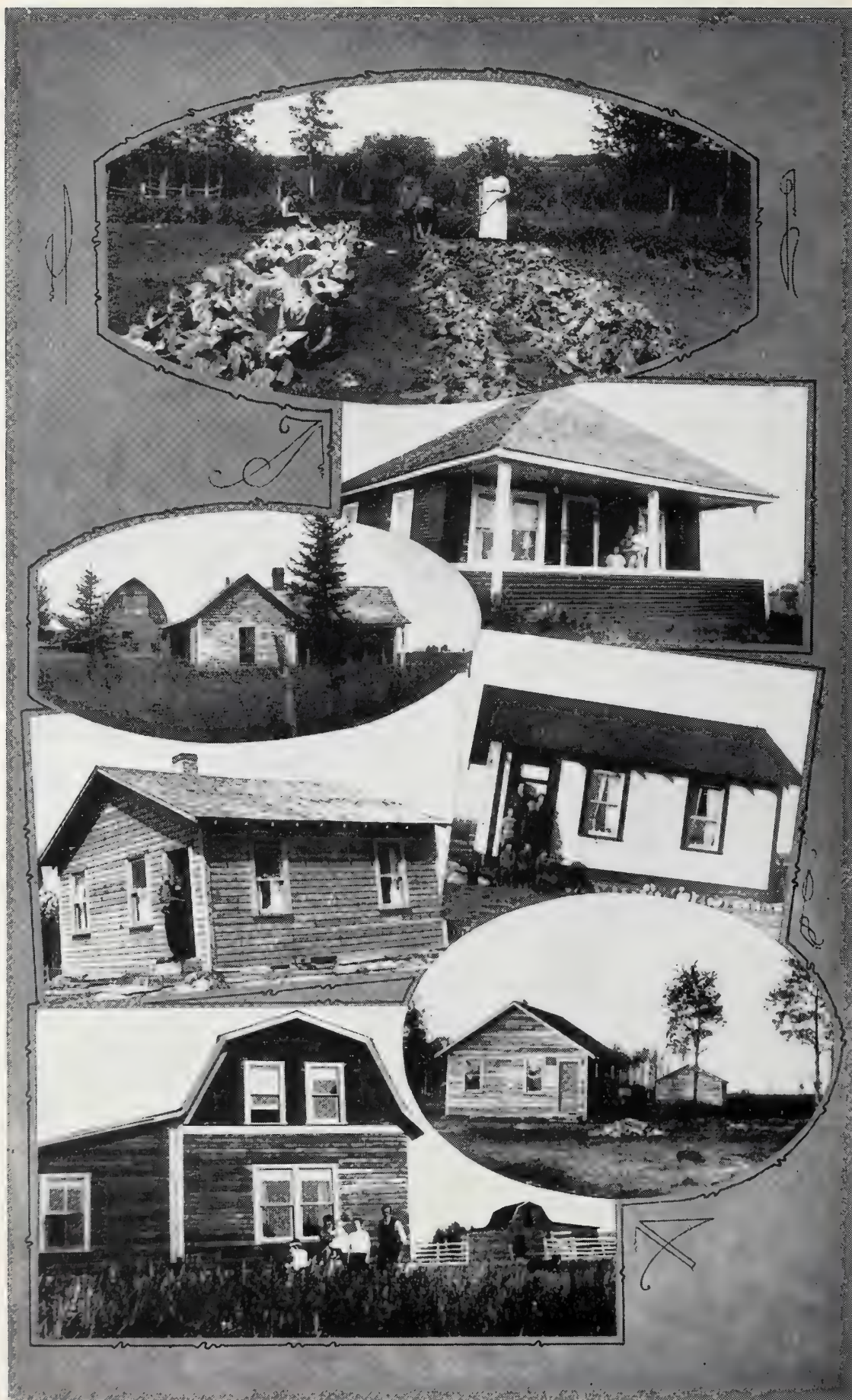
HARVESTING ALBERTA GRAIN



THE LAND OF BIG CROPS



SOME FINE ALBERTA FARM HOMES



NEW SETTLERS FROM THE OLD LAND IN THEIR FIRST HOMES

production of pure seed oats, for which his district was well adapted. His first success was some years ago at El Paso, Texas, when he won the oats sweepstakes. In 1919 he won all first prizes in everything he showed at Kansas City, Mo. In 1922 at Chicago he captured the world's prize in oats, and again in 1923. Pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and pure-bred Berkshire pigs are other hobbies of Mr. Biglands with which he has taken many prizes.

NICK TAITENGER, CLARESHOLM—World's champion in barley, 1922. Born on a farm in France, educated at Verdun university, came to the western states soon after, handicapped by the loss of a hand in an accident. Settled at Claresholm, Southern Alberta, in 1904, buying a farm with hard-earned savings. Now has 1,600 acres, and holds ten sweepstakes from the International Show at Chicago in barley and other grains. Assets now valued at \$50,000. Hard work, courage, thrift, cultivation of superior varieties of grain, made Nick Taitenger wealthy in Alberta.

ARTHUR GREVILLE, MORRIN—Winner in wheat, Chicago, 1923. Born on a farm in Devonshire, apprenticed to the dry goods trade. Came to Alberta in 1906 on account of poor health, worked for two years as farm laborer, then filed on homestead 50 miles from Didsbury. Later on bought a section of school land. Now has 700 acres under cultivation and 520 acres pasture, all buildings, livestock, etc., paid for out of crops raised on the farm. In 1923 had average of 52 bushels per acre registered seed wheat on 150 acres. Attributes his success to productivity of Alberta soil, ideal climate for raising of cereals, perseverance, and a definite object.

AXEL ANDERSON, KATHRYN, ALBERTA—Came to the United States from Sweden in 1907, without funds. Worked for two years as a farm hand, moved to Alberta and took a homestead. Today he operates 1,280 acres, with fine farm buildings, good livestock, etc. In 1924 raised crops to the cash value of \$20,000. He came with little capital. Today he is independent and successful.

W. WALLACE, F.R.S.E., LINFIELD—Winner in oats, Chicago, 1923. Was high school master in Leeds, England, but came to Alberta in 1907 and filed on a homestead. Is still farming the original homestead and has been taking prizes in seed grain for years.

HERMAN TRELLE, LAKE SASKATOON, in Grande Prairie District—World's champion in both wheat and oats in 1926. Born in Idaho, but lived in Alberta since 1900. Educated at Alberta university. Offered himself for enlistment in war,

but was rejected, so took up farming. Proved up a homestead in the Lake Saskatoon district, traveling overland in 1911, and proving up his homestead when 17 years old. Now farms a complete section. Broke records of Chicago Hay and Grain Show by winning both wheat and oats championship.

JOHN GLAMBECK, MILO—Was born on a small farm in Denmark. When 18 years of age, he migrated to the United States, where he worked at various jobs until 1907 when he took up a homestead in Southern Alberta. He went into mixed farming, and set himself to build a beautiful farm home. He took up tree and fruit growing, and made a hobby of it. Today he has one of the most beautiful farm locations in Alberta. He has for the past six years produced enough strawberries to supply his family every day during the season, and produces many other fruits.

JOHN HAMILTON, COALDALE, near Lethbridge—Came from Ireland in 1916, knowing nothing much of farming. Took up an irrigated farm near Lethbridge, and today has one of the best irrigated farms in the province. He grows fruits and vegetables of many varieties, and his farm is one of the beautiful sights of the district.

WALLACE PICKERING, DONALDA—Came west from Prince Edward Island in 1905, taking up a homestead 70 miles from Lacombe. Later the building of a branch line gave him closer market facilities. He went in for mixed farming. Today he owns five quarters, and has 70 head of cattle.

The progress of some of the families who have settled in Alberta under the empire family settlement scheme, of which details may be secured from Canadian government agents, is recorded as follows:

Robert Hogarth, from Roxburghshire, Scotland, came to the Westlock district near Edmonton in 1925, accepting work on a neighboring farm. From his earnings he was able to purchase a cow and poultry, and also cultivated a garden. Within a year from their arrival, Mr. and Mrs. Hogarth had five horses, five cows, milking, as well as other stock and poultry. They put in their own crop in 1926, harvesting 338 bushels of wheat, 130 bushels of oats, and a surplus of vegetables for sale. The revenue from his cows during the summer season was \$45 a month.

John Robinson, from Shipley, in Sussex, England, came to Alberta in 1925, and has since been able to earn sufficient to commence farming. They will have 115 acres for crop in 1927, and have three cows and thirty head of poultry.

Natural Resources of Alberta

THE wealth of Alberta's natural resources is only now beginning to be realized. Not alone is the future greatness of the province in agriculture, for under the soil that produces the fine crops and in the mountain passes and the vast hinterland still scarcely known, lies hidden untold wealth in minerals.

The most extensive and important of Alberta's resources is coal. Alberta stands first among the provinces in the Dominion in its coal area and in production. Until recently the chief value of this resource has been the satisfying of local fuel demand. During the past year or two considerable expansion has taken place in supplying the other prairie provinces. The recently reported discovery of a large body of iron ore on the shores of Lake Athabasca, brings to the vast fuel wealth of the Province a real significance and importance. If development confirms the reported richness and accessibility of the iron ore deposits, these two potent factors of wealth and industrialism—coal and iron—will mean a great deal to Alberta.

Alberta's total coal reserve is estimated at 1,059,000 million tons, a sufficient reserve to last the whole of Canada for many generations. This reserve of Alberta's comprises 14 per cent of the entire world's coal reserves, 72 per cent of British reserves, and 87 per cent of Canada's reserves.

There is \$55,000,000 already invested in coal mines in Alberta, which in 1926 produced 6,117,000 tons and could produce twice as much with very little further investment. There are about 300 mines in operation, with a maximum of 12,000 employed. Alberta now supplies Manitoba and Saskatchewan with coal. In 1909 production was only 2,100,000 tons.

NATURAL GAS—Vast reservoirs of natural gas exist in the province, and this utility is now being used in the homes of four cities and several towns. Production now exceeds 9,000,000,000 cubic feet annually. The chief fields in use are in the Medicine Hat and Redcliff districts in the south-eastern end of the province, Bow Island and Foremost districts, Okotoks district south of Calgary, and the Viking field east of Edmonton. The gas is used extensively for industrial purposes at Medicine Hat, where the city itself owns gas wells. In the other centres the gas is used almost exclusively for domestic use, with a limited quantity used for industrial purposes. The production in Alberta exceeds the production of all the other provinces in Canada.

PETROLEUM—Alberta is the leading province in Canada also in the production of petroleum, although commercial production is only of comparatively recent development. For years extensive tests have been carried on and many wells drilled in various parts of the province. Commercial production was first obtained in the Turner Valley field, southwest of Calgary some forty miles. In this field a high grade naptha testing 73 degrees Baume was discovered, and is now being produced from a well drilled by the Royalite Co., a subsidiary of the Imperial Oil Co., at the rate of more than 200,000 barrels yearly. This well has been producing for nearly two years, and its flow of almost pure gasoline has been increasing steadily. Similar wells have been brought in, in the same vicinity, and many others are being drilled.

Another oil structure with commercial possibilities is that in the Wainwright district east of Edmonton some 125 miles. Crude petroleum of a low grade, with commercial possibilities, has been found in this area. Other fields with important possibilities in the province are now being developed.

TIMBER—This is an important resource in Alberta, although not developed to any very large extent at present, owing to the fact that transportation facilities are not yet available to the huge timber limits of the northern parts of



LUMBERING INDUSTRY ON AN ALBERTA RIVER



ALBERTA COAL MINES



Top, Meat Packing Plant. Centre, Tile Industry at Medicine Hat.
Bottom, Lumber Mill

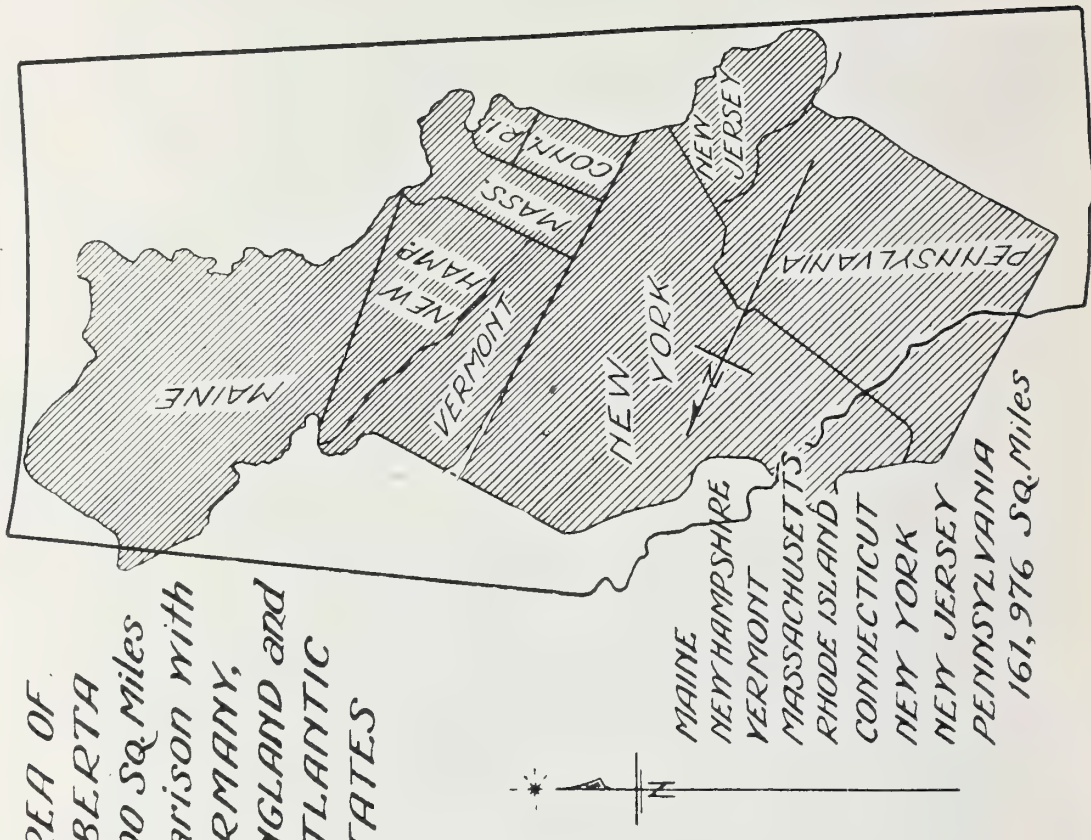
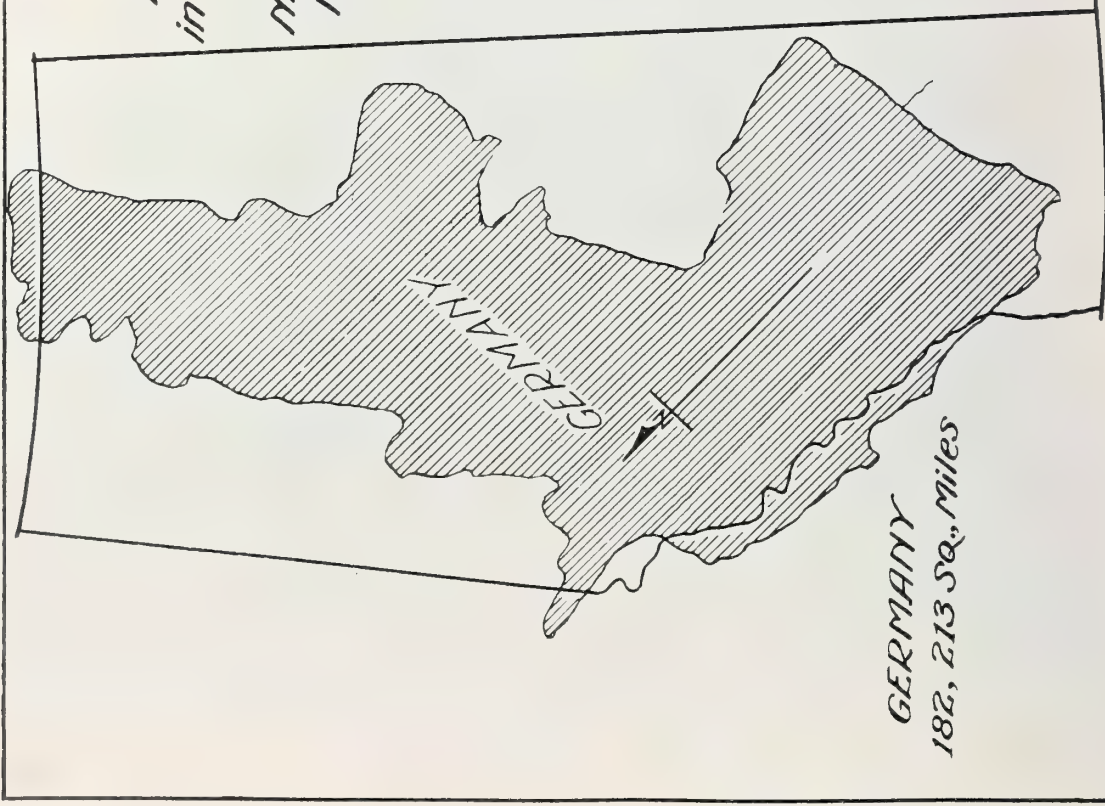
the province. It is estimated by government authorities that Alberta has an area of more than 60,000 square miles of merchantable timber, and there are also some 12,000,000 acres of forest reserves. The sawmill timber available is estimated at 16,000 million board feet, and the pulp wood material at 270,000,000 cords. Several large timber concerns are already established in the province. The annual cut approaches fifty million feet.

TAR SANDS—Extensive deposits of bituminous sands exist north-east of Edmonton some 350 miles, along the Athabasca River and adjacent to the provincial government-owned railway, the A. and G.W. These tar sands are exposed for a distance of 100 miles or more along the river and contain about 18 per cent bitumen. Satisfactory experiments have been conducted proving the suitability of these tar sands for pavement purposes. The estimated area covered by these sands is 15,000 square miles.

CLAY PRODUCTS—Medicine Hat and other points have extensive clay product industries, the deposit of clay and shales for ceramic products being extensive. Value of the manufactured product exceeds \$1,500,000 annually.

SALT—An important deposit of salt has been developed north-east of Edmonton at Fort McMurray on the Athabasca River, and some twenty-five tons a day are being shipped out for commercial use.

INDUSTRIES—Though industrial development in Alberta has been secondary to that of agriculture, up to the present, it gives promise of being much more rapid in the future, as the natural resources become opened up, and further capital is invested. There are, however, many very important industries established in the province. At Edmonton, the capital, there are large packing plants, garment works, biscuit factory, flour mills, box factory, bottling works, coal mines, etc. At Calgary there are packing plants, large flour mills, oil refinery, C.P.R. railway shops (which are the largest repair shops in Canada), auto assembly plant, soap works, saddlery and leather goods, brick yards, bottling works, etc. At Lethbridge are flour mills, macaroni factory, oil refinery, coal mines, etc. At Medicine Hat are brick works, pottery plants, glass works, linseed mills, large flour mills, etc. At Raymond, near Lethbridge, is a million dollar sugar plant in operation, producing nearly ten million pounds of sugar annually from sugar beets. The annual payroll in industry in the province is over \$60,000,000, including coal mines.



AREA OF
ALBERTA
254,000 Sq. Miles
in comparison with
GERMANY,
NEW ENGLAND and
MID ATLANTIC
STATES

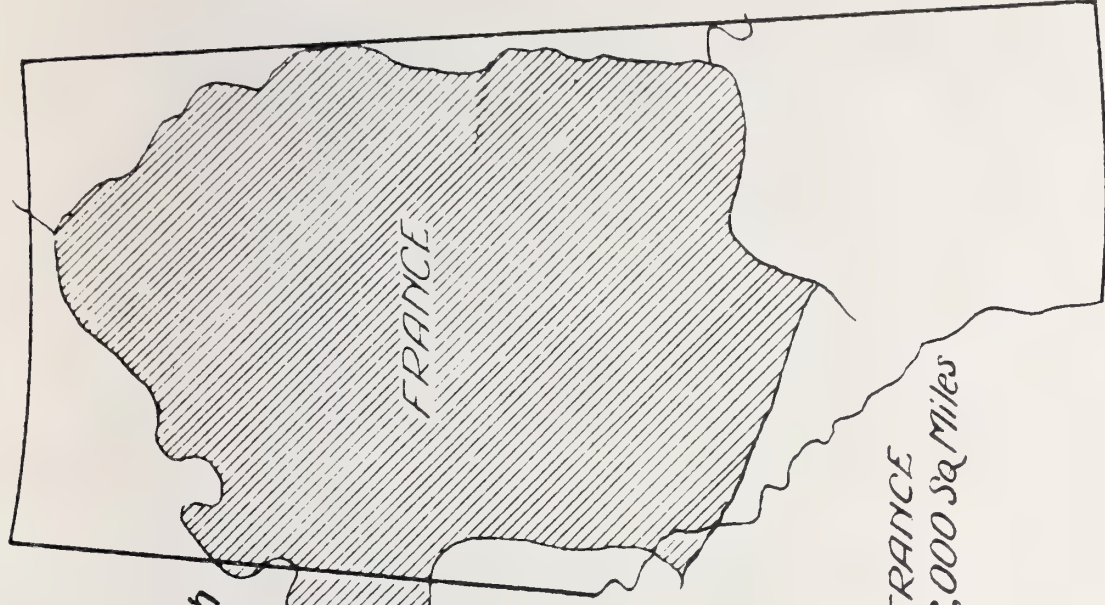
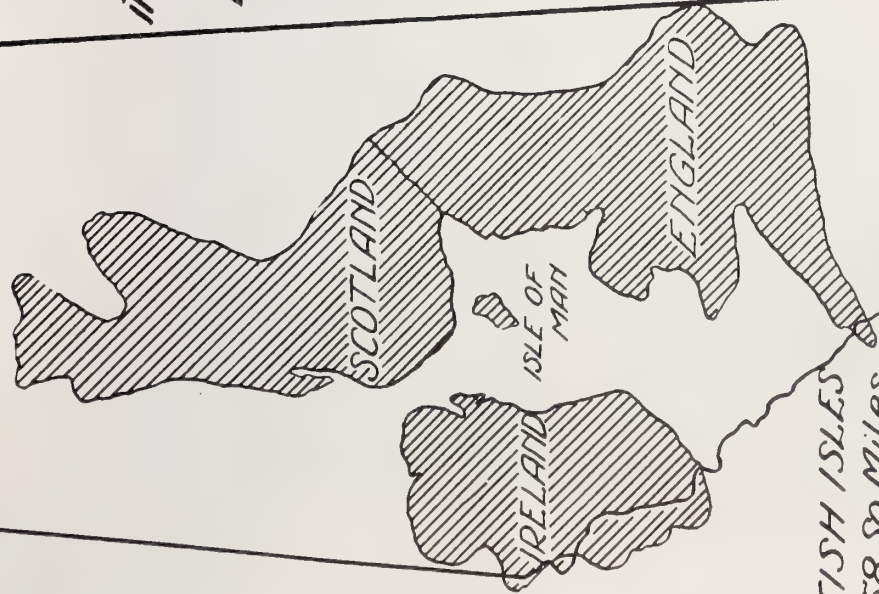


AREA OF
ALBERTA
254,000 Sq. Miles
in comparison with
THE
BRITISH ISLES
& FRANCE



FRANCE
213,000 Sq. Miles

BRITISH ISLES
121,558 Sq. Miles
Including - England
Scotland Ireland &
the Isle of Man



Game and Fish

BIG GAME—Practically all the varieties of big game animals native to Western Canada, except buffalo and antelope, are found in the mountain parts of Alberta between the international boundary and the headwaters of the Smoky River, approximately township 60. Different kinds, however, predominate in different sections. Mountain sheep and mountain goat are found in the neighborhood of Pincher Creek, Banff, and Jasper. Banff and Jasper being in the Dominion parks, hunting around these points is prohibited, but hunting parties start from these places for hunting grounds beyond the park boundaries. Deer are plentiful along the foothills from the international boundary to the headwaters of the Athabasca River. East of the foothill country they are found in the wooded country on both sides of the North Saskatchewan River well over towards the Calgary and Edmonton railway. Moose are found in the same section as deer, but are more plentiful in the heavily wooded lands of the central and north central parts of the province. The moose country spreads both north-east and north-west from Edmonton. Caribou are found in the mountain areas north of Jasper Park and generally north of the Athabasca River.

BIRDS—Game birds are plentiful throughout the province. Wild ducks are found in all waters, but are most plentiful on the prairie lakes and sloughs in the southern and central parts of the province. Geese are likewise widely distributed, but are found principally in the north. They are plentiful on such lakes as Lesser Slave and Athabasca. Prairie chicken, or sharp-tailed grouse, are found in all parts of the province, but are more plentiful in the brush country than on the prairie. Partridge, or ruffed grouse, are found in all the wooded parts of the province. Blue grouse and ptarmigan are found in the mountains and foothills. Hungarian partridge are plentiful in parts of southern Alberta. They are naturalized and not native game birds.

FISHING—In many of the mountain-fed streams on the eastern watershed of the Rockies, and in the mountains, the sportsman angler can find some of the finest trout fishing on the continent.

COMMERCIAL FISHING—Commercial fishing has come to be a large industry in the province, the chief fields being north-west and north-east of Edmonton. The value of fish taken out of the province in 1926 was approximately \$750,000.

Scenery for the Tourist

THE Province of Alberta is particularly fortunate in the possession of some of the most famous mountain scenery in the world. The Canadian Rockies, which form the western boundary of Alberta, contain a wealth of mountain beauty unequalled anywhere, and sought by tourists of all nationalities. No section of the continent, in fact, has more to offer the tourist.

PARKS—The three great mountain parks in Alberta are the Waterton Lakes Park, on the international boundary in the south-western part of the province, the Rocky Mountain Park, of which Banff is the centre, and Jasper Park, west of Edmonton.

Waterton Lakes Park is in reality a continuation of the Glacier National Park of Montana, and is equally attractive. It contains 270,720 acres and has excellent fishing and boating. It is reached by motor from Macleod or Lethbridge via Cardston or south from Pincher Creek, and is easily accessible from the main motor highway leading up from Yellowstone Park to Glacier National Park and into Alberta. The Great Northern Railway has established a large tourist hotel at Waterton.

Rocky Mountain Park is about 80 miles west of the City of Calgary, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It includes two of the most interesting and most surpassingly beautiful spots in the world, namely, Banff and Lake Louise. The accommodation for tourists is excellent, with palatial hotels and attractive camping grounds. There are also hot springs of high restorative value for invalids. These resorts are easily accessible by motor from Calgary or from British Columbia on the west.





Jasper National Park is 240 miles west of Edmonton on the main line of the Canadian National Railway, and although comparatively unknown a few years ago, has already become famous to world tourists for its unsurpassed beauty and many attractions. It embraces a rich variety of river, lake, forest and mountain scenery. A palatial hotel system for tourists has been established, and the side trips and camping possibilities are numerous. A motor road from Edmonton west to this park is now almost completed.

Other parks in Alberta include the famous Buffalo Park at Wainwright, east of Edmonton, on the Canadian National Railway, where the great herd of 7,000 head of buffalo is kept; Elk Island Park, thirty-five miles east of Edmonton, and the antelope preserve in Southern Alberta.

LAKE RESORTS—Attractive lake resorts are numerous in Alberta. These include Gull Lake, seven miles from the town of Lacombe, half-way between Calgary and Edmonton; Sylvan Lake, in the same district; Buffalo Lake, to the east of Lacombe; Lac Ste. Anne and Wabamun Lakes, west of Edmonton; Birch Lake, east of Edmonton; Lac La Biche, north-east of Edmonton, and others.

For the Motorist

Thousands of motor tourists annually visit Alberta. They come not only to visit its famous mountain and summer resorts, but also to see for themselves the country which produces world champion crops.

The majority of the mountain resorts are accessible by car, and large auto camps are maintained there. The cities and most of the larger towns also maintain well-equipped auto camps, so that the tourist finds everything to his convenience. Great numbers of motorists from the United States find annual recreation in Alberta's resorts.

MAIN HIGHWAYS—The Alberta Government has had under construction a system of gravelled highways for the main arteries into and through the province. This program has included the main artery leading into the province from the United States at the Montana border and running north as far as Edmonton, some 350 miles. It also includes the main highway west from Calgary to Banff, which is now completed, the trans-Canada highway through the Crow's Nest Pass west of Lethbridge, and other portions of east and west highways.

All main roads in Alberta ordinarily are well-maintained, and except under unusual weather conditions, the motorist will find no difficulty in reaching practically any point in the southern and central parts of the province. Roads are now also being extended into the more northern part of the province, and shortly it will be possible for the motorist also to traverse these sections.

One of the main motor highways leading into Alberta is the Blue trail, which brings the tourist up from Yellowstone Park to Glacier Park in Montana, thence into Alberta to Waterton Park, and north to the town of Macleod, thence to Calgary. From Calgary the Blue trail leads over the crest of the Canadian Rockies via Banff and the newly completed Banff-Windermere trail, which connects in British Columbia with the highways that lead up from the western and Pacific states. By the Blue trail it is possible to travel the entire 4,000 mile circle from Los Angeles, on the south, north-eastward through Salt Lake, and the towns of Idaho and Montana, into Alberta and over the Rockies, through British Columbia to Spokane, Portland and San Francisco.

The Sunshine trail leads up from Great Falls, Montana, to Lethbridge in Southern Alberta, thence north to Calgary and through to Edmonton, the capital city. This highway is well maintained for the entire length and is the chief route taken by tourists entering Alberta from Montana and the western and middle states.

The Red Line route, which is the trans-Canada highway, traverses the province from east to west, entering the province just east of Medicine Hat, and leading through the southern part of the province via Bow Island, Taber, Lethbridge and Macleod to the Crow's Nest Pass. There is also a well-maintained main highway leading from the east through Medicine Hat to Calgary and Banff via Bassano and Gleichen, along the main line of the C.P.R. Other main highways lead into the province from the east, leading to Edmonton and other points.

Condensed Facts about Alberta

AREA—The area of Alberta is 255,000 square miles. Its length from south to north is 750 miles, and in width it varies from 180 miles in the south to 400 miles at the northern extremity.

POPULATION—When the Province of Alberta was formed in the year 1905 the population was less than 200,000. When the census was taken in 1911 it had reached 374,000. In 1921 the census made it 588,000. The 1926 census showed the population to be 608,000. At present 60 per cent of the population is of British origin and about 60 per cent is rural.

COMPARISON OF AREA AND POPULATION

	Area Sq. Miles	Population	Population Sq. Mile
Alberta	255,000	608,000	2.3
British Isles	121,558	47,307,601	389.
France	213,000	39,209,518	184.
Germany	182,213	59,852,692	328.
New England and Mid-Atlantic States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania	161,976	29,662,053	183.

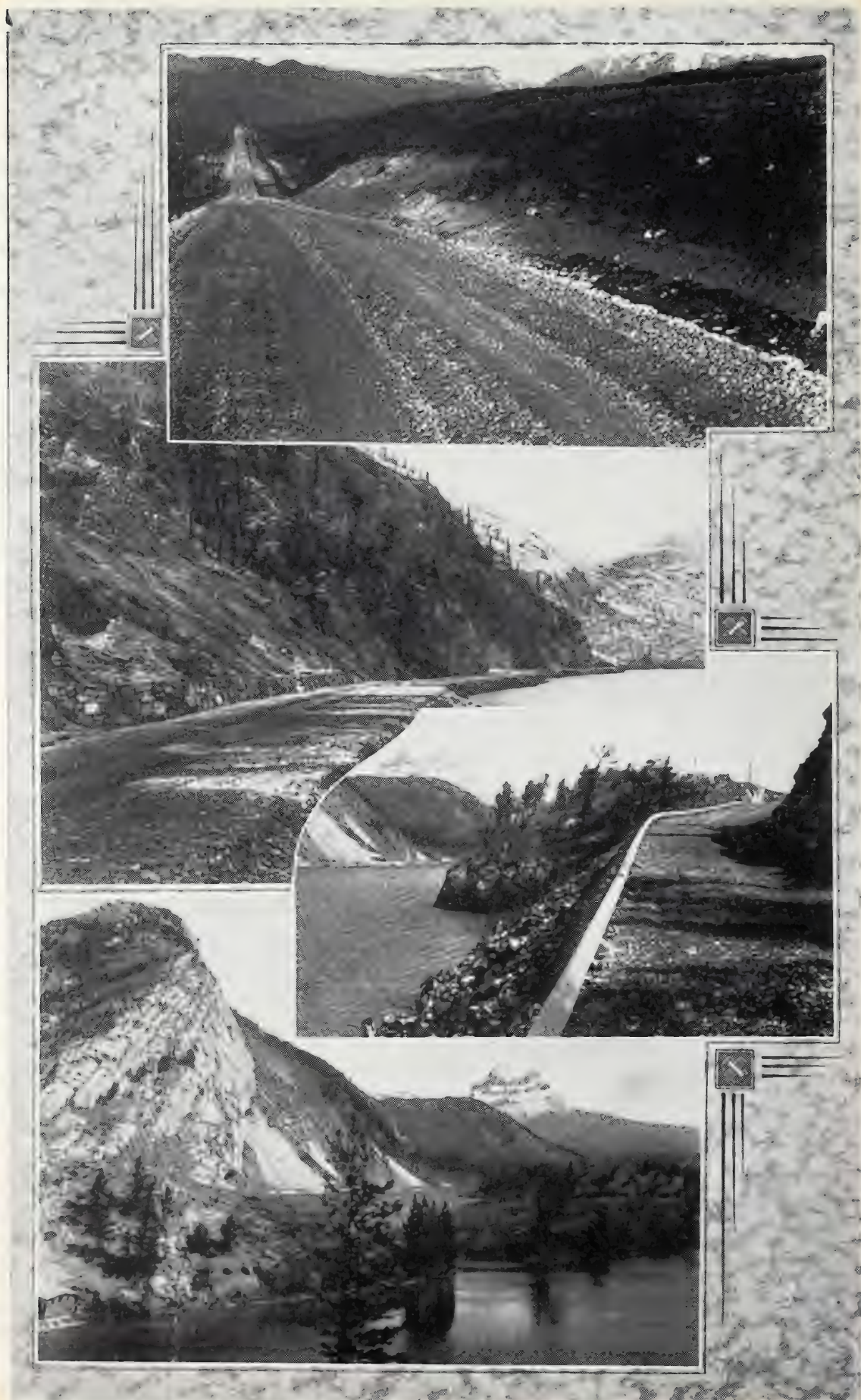
ALTITUDES—The altitude at Lethbridge, near the United States boundary, is 2,900 feet; at Calgary, 150 miles north,



AN ALBERTA AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL



Top, Waterton Lakes. Left, Mount Edith Cavell. Right, Lake Louise



ALBERTA HIGHWAYS FOR THE MOTOR TOURIST

it is 3,400 feet; at Edmonton, 200 miles north of Calgary, it is 2,100 feet, and at Peace River, near the northern boundary of the province, it is 1,092 feet.

MUNICIPALITIES—In Alberta there are six cities, 55 towns, 114 villages, 167 municipal districts and 250 improvement districts. The larger cities are Edmonton, the capital, 65,100; Calgary with 65,500, Lethbridge with 11,000, and Medicine Hat with 9,500.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT—Municipal government is chiefly by elected council, with commissioners in the cities. The province is governed by a legislative body of 60 members, out of which a cabinet council of eight members is selected.

The Premier or head of the Government is the recognized leader of the strongest party in the Assembly and the other members of the council are those he selects as best qualified to co-operate with him. The Executive Council is commonly described as the Government or Provincial Cabinet. The Executive Council retains office so long as it has the confidence of the Assembly. The fact that each member of the Cabinet Council must be selected from the membership of the Legislative Assembly establishes a direct line of responsibility between the Government administration and the legislative body. The administration is by departments of agriculture and health, education, the attorney-general, treasury, municipal affairs, public works, railways and tele-



ARTS BUILDING, ALBERTA UNIVERSITY

phones, with the Premier acting as chairman of the council, and with one member holding no portfolio but acting merely in an advisory capacity.

The Lieutenant Governor is the representative in the state of the British monarchy. He has no executive powers of government, but is nominally the head of the state, and has certain powers of veto.

PHYSICAL FEATURES—With respect to physical features, Alberta is divided roughly into three general divisions. The southern portion of the province is almost entirely open prairie land, with the exception of the western fringe, along the Rocky Mountain range. Central Alberta, which describes that portion of the province north from the Red Deer River, 100 miles north of Calgary, to a point 60 miles beyond Edmonton, is of a semi-wooded, park-like nature, especially suitable for mixed farming. Northern Alberta is more heavily wooded, and the surface of a more uneven nature, save for magnificent stretches of park-land and open prairie in the Peace River and Grande Prairie where are located the far-famed agricultural lands of the Peace River country.

DRAINAGE—There are three large continental drainage systems represented in Alberta. The Peace and the Athabasca Rivers, which belong to the great Mackenzie system, drain the northern half of the province. A number of important lakes, such as the Lesser Slave and Athabasca, form a part of this system. The northern part of the province generally is quite well watered. Both the Peace and Athabasca Rivers have numerous tributary streams and there are a good many lakes scattered over the whole of this area. Both the Athabasca and Peace Rivers are navigable.

The Saskatchewan River system, made up of the north and south branches and such important tributaries as the Battle, Red Deer, the Bow and Belly Rivers, drains all the rest of the Province except a small portion in the south. The Saskatchewan is part of the Nelson River system which flows into Hudson Bay from Lake Winnipeg.

In the southern part of the province the Milk River, which is connected with the Mississippi system, enters the province and flows through Canadian territory for a distance of about sixty miles not far from the international boundary.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM—The courts of the province are of two kinds, the Supreme Court of Alberta and the District Court of Alberta. The Supreme Court is the highest court in Alberta and its jurisdiction is not limited, the District Court

is concerned with less important cases. There are ten judges of the Supreme Court, five in the Appellate Division and five in the Trial Division. The judges are appointed and paid by the Dominion Government, but the courts are supported by the province. The province is divided into judicial districts in each of which there is at least one district judge, a sheriff, a crown prosecutor, and a clerk of the court. In addition to Supreme and District Courts there are courts presided over by magistrates and justices of the peace. The province is also divided into registration districts at the offices of which all chattel mortgages and lien notes are registered. All land is held under the Torrens system. The title to land is secured by registration in a Land Titles Office.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY—The land survey system of the province is simple and easily understood. The survey unit is the township, which is six miles square. The building up of the survey is determined from the international boundary for an east and west line and from the fourth meridian, which forms the eastern boundary of the province. From the fourth meridian the rows of townships running north and south are called ranges and are numbered from the meridian west, and the townships are numbered from the international boundary north. The larger subdivisions of townships are sections, or square miles of land containing 640 acres. Each township thus contains 36 sections or 23,040 acres. The sections are numbered from the south-east corner westward in each township, the second tier being numbered from west to east and so on alternately throughout the six tiers. The sections are subdivided into quarters or 160-acre farms. These are described as the south-east, south-west, north-west and north-east quarters. Roads are sixty-six feet wide and there are six roads running north and south in each township, but only three running east and west.

GRAIN ELEVATORS—Alberta in 1926 had a total of 1,031 grain elevators or warehouses, with capacity of 46,795,000 bushels. A new Government elevator was completed at Edmonton with a capacity of 2,500,000 bushels.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR THE FARMERS—The provincial department of agriculture, with its many ramifications, is designed to extend a helping hand to the man on the land, to assist him in problems of cultivation and of farm management, and to provide him with expert advice along these lines. For this purpose active services are maintained in the way of a livestock branch, dairy branch, publications branch, a veterinary service, poultry branch, district agri-

cultural agents, etc. Official grading services are maintained for both cream and butter. Lectures and demonstrations in agriculture and its various branches are held from time to time throughout the country.

The federal department of agriculture maintains experimental farms at several points in Alberta, and also maintains agents of its various branches within the province. Both governments co-operate in advancing the welfare of the industry.

CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS—Co-operative marketing has come to be a large factor in agriculture in Alberta. This province was the birth-place of the now famous Canadian wheat pool, which markets co-operatively a large proportion of the western Canadian wheat crop each year. Alberta also has co-operative livestock, dairy and poultry pools. The Provincial Government encourages co-operative marketing in practical ways, and assists the pure seed producers of the province in operating a co-operative seed cleaning and grading plant. Alberta is noted for the production of the purest seed grain on the North American continent.

WOMEN'S HOME BUREAU SERVICE—One of the most important activities maintained by the provincial department of agriculture is the women's home bureau service, which provides demonstrations and lectures in domestic science and health for the women of the rural districts. These courses are held under the auspices of the various women's organizations of the province, and are a most vital factor in the improvement of the standard of home life in the province. A travelling library is also a feature of the women's home bureau service.

RURAL ORGANIZATIONS—Community life in the rural parts is highly organized through the medium of various organizations, such as the United Farmers, the United Farm Women, the women's institutes, and the agricultural societies and school fairs.

OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS—Other departments maintained by the Provincial Government include an education department, which has jurisdiction over the educational system in Alberta, a public works and highways department with jurisdiction over public works and highway construction, a labor bureau and employment bureau, a municipal department with supervision over the affairs of the various rural municipal districts, and a public health department, giving valuable services along health lines.



Top, Edmonton City. Centre, Calgary City. Bottom, Galt Gardens at Lethbridge



Top to Bottom—A City Hospital, a Public Library, a Rural School, a City School

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION—In addition to the teaching of elementary agriculture in the public schools of the province, the Alberta Government maintains a system of agricultural schools, of which there are four in operation. These schools are designed chiefly to give instruction without cost to the boys and girls of the farms over 16 years of age. The course offered is of two years' duration. There is no entrance examination requirements, and no charge is made for the course, save for board and lodging. Since these schools were opened, more than 4,500 pupils have passed through them. They are the centers for the distribution of agricultural knowledge through their respective districts, and have been an important factor in the upbuilding of agriculture.

GENERAL EDUCATION—Alberta is fortunate in the possession of a most modern educational system, including public and high schools, with manual training, a technical institute at Calgary, normal schools for the training of teachers at Calgary and Camrose, and a modern university at Edmonton with an enrolment upwards of 1,300, giving degrees in arts, agriculture, medicine, etc. The total enrolment of students in the public and high schools of the province is now 150,000, compared with 28,000 when the province was formed in 1905. Special institutions for the care of mentally deficient children are provided.

PUBLIC HEALTH—In the development of a progressive health policy, Alberta is outstanding. The department of public health exercises a rigid care of the health of the



RURAL MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL

people, and provides many services for the improvement of health conditions. In the pioneer districts, nurses are maintained, who, often at the risk of life, bring skilled attention to the settlers in these outlying parts. In the more settled districts, public health nurses are maintained in co-operation with the municipalities, and these nurses conduct school inspections, hold clinics and give lectures in health matters. The Government has also inaugurated a system of travelling clinics for the providing of necessary services to the children of the rural districts at a cost within reach of all. In the larger centers, the health authorities exercise an equally rigid control of health conditions, and provide necessary services to the people.

MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS—A system of rural municipal hospitals has been set up, under which there are now seventeen well-equipped hospitals maintained at various points in the rural parts of the province. The system provides for the creation of a municipal hospital district, which is generally a group of rural municipalities joined together for the purpose of building a hospital and providing medical services. This is done under the direction of the minister of health and on the vote of the people. The hospital service is maintained by a tax of from two to three cents an acre on the lands in the district, and those paying these rates are entitled to the hospital services at the rate of \$1 a day. The hospitals are well-manned and well-equipped.

TRANSPORTATION—A network of railways has been built up throughout Alberta. More than four thousand miles have been constructed since the province was formed in 1905. There are now three transcontinental lines traversing the province, two of these being operated by the Canadian National Railways and the other by the Canadian Pacific railway. The latter has a large mileage in branch lines throughout the southern and central parts of the province, while the Canadian National Railways have also many branch lines serving Central and Northern Alberta. The Alberta Government operates a line from Edmonton north-west into the famous Peace River country, reaching beyond Peace River town to the country north of the river, and westward into the Grande Prairie and Spirit River territory. This railway not only serves rich new agricultural territory, but taps also valuable timber areas from which much lumber is taken annually. The Alberta Government also operates a line 300 miles long north-eastward from Edmonton to Fort McMurray on the Athabasca River, and a line running north-west from Lacombe through a rich agri-

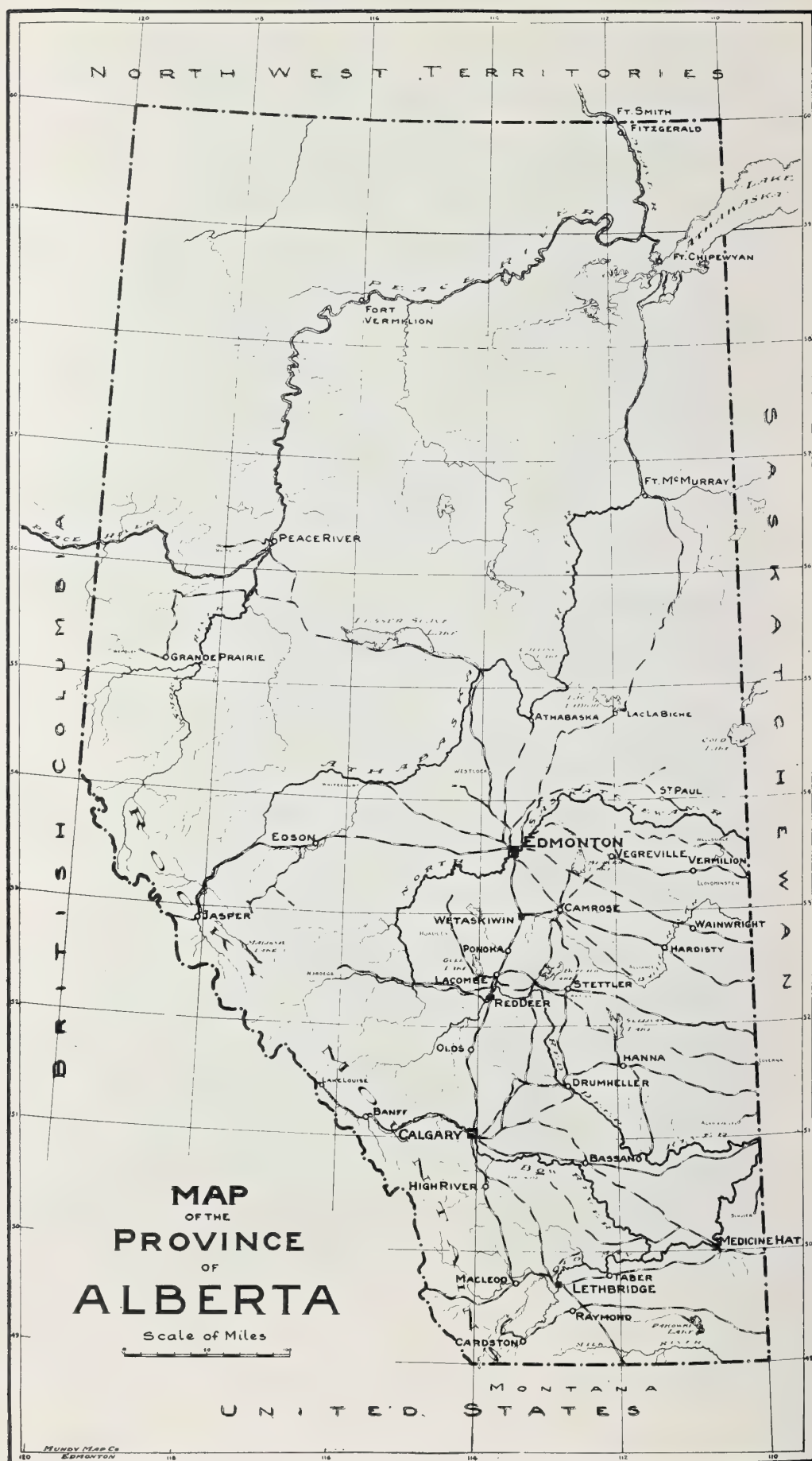
cultural district in Central Alberta. Thus nearly every district of the province is well served with railway connection. Well equipped passenger and freight steamers operate on the northern rivers, giving connection with far northern points.

TELEPHONES—Alberta is noted throughout Canada for its modern and efficient telephone system. The main system in operation is owned by the Alberta Government, it having bought over the interests of the Bell Telephone Corporation in 1908 when development was just commencing. The Government system now has nearly 60,000 phones in operation, including the systems in the cities of Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Calgary, which are of the automatic type. Complete long distance service is maintained and nearly one thousand communities in the province are connected by the Government system. There is also established a universal telephone service giving telephone connection with all the important centers throughout the North American continent. It is possible by this service to hold a conversation over more than 3,000 miles of telephone line.

The telephone system in the city of Edmonton is still retained in the control of the municipality, and there are some 13,000 phones in use in that city.

On the Government system there are more than 20,000 rural phones, serving many farm homes of the province. The cost of a rural house phone is about \$2.25 per month.

This booklet is issued from the office of the Publicity Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Government Buildings, Edmonton, Alberta. Those desiring copies of this book, or other literature, maps, etc., or information concerning the Province and its resources and opportunities, may secure same by writing that address.



MAP OF ALBERTA SHOWING RAILWAYS AND IMPORTANT TOWNS



AUTUMN IN ALBERTA



